



Virginia Green Partner Profile:



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities.

Virginia Green Partners are primarily committing to help support **Virginia Green** and encourage their customers to join or do business with Virginia Green-certified participants. Although not necessarily tourism facilities themselves, Partners are expected to practice green activities in their own facilities as well!

Seven Cities Rickshaws

"A Rickshaw, also known as a 'Pedicab', is a large tricycle, fully equipped with a mountain bike frame, eighteen gears, traditional-style bicycle seat for the peddler and most importantly a bench seat area for passengers directly behind the peddler's seat. We prefer to call the driver the "peddler" since essentially the driver is peddling the bike. We are a "unique" cab service."

Green Statement: "We are an eco-friendly form of transportation in the city of Virginia Beach. As supporters of recycling, we were at the front of promoting permanent recycling bins on the city streets. It took us five months talking with the economic department to get this through."



CORE ACTIVITIES for all *Virginia Green Partner Organizations*

- ☒ **Support Virginia Green.** Partners must promote the Virginia Green Program to clients, members, and staff and encourage them to do business with Virginia Green participants. This partner organization pledges that they:
 - Encourage clients who are in the tourism industry to join Virginia Green.
 - Carry and promote environmentally-friendly products and provide services that minimize the use of harmful chemicals and materials.
 - Have a travel / conference policy that encourages employees to stay in / do business with Virginia Green or similarly-minded facilities.
 - Display the Virginia Green certificate prominently in their facility / offices and use the Virginia Green window decals.
 - Use the Virginia Green logo on signage pointing out recycling or other "green" improvements in your facility.
 - Highlight their involvement in Virginia Green on their website and include a link to their Virginia Green facility profile

☑ **Green Meetings and Conferences.** When Virginia Green Partners hold meetings or conferences they must provide recycling and make an effort to reduce the use of Styrofoam and other disposables. This partner pledges that they:

- Minimize copying and always make 2-sided copies
- Have eliminated the use of Styrofoam cups and plates; instead they use actual mugs.
- Use silverware instead of plastic utensils.
- Purchase disposable plates/cups/utensils made from biodegradable materials
- Use non-bleached napkins or maintain a supply of cloth napkins.
- Serve water in pitchers and glassware instead of bottles

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** . Virginia Green Partners are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program if they have a facility. This partner pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Were at the front to push through recycling bins in Town Center in Virginia Beach
- Track overall waste bills
- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use "green" cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Use latex paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)



☑ **Water Conservation.** Virginia Green partners are highly encouraged to have a plan for conserving water in their facility that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This partner pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Have a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - low flow toilets
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first) and use microfiber technology mops
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, and minimizes lawn areas
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds

☑ **Energy Efficiency.** Virginia Green partners are highly encouraged a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives in their facility. This partner pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Use:
 - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
 - ceiling fans
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have installed additional insulation
- Use natural lighting

- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances
- Have thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Use fuel efficient vehicles or hybrid vehicles

For more information on **Seven Cities Rickshaws**, see www.sevencitiesrickshaws.com or contact **Andrew Bargy** at abargy@sevencitiesrickshaws.com.



For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

